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The National Security Working Group (NSWG) provides wide-spectrum coverage of issues like the Iranian threat, missile defense, sequestration, New START, events in Syria and more. We look forward to providing this newsletter to RSC members and welcome your input throughout the 113th Congress.

"Renovating our Missile Defense" (Rep. Franks)

A recent Reuters report states that the Defense Department plans to ask Congress for \$4.5 billion in extra missile defense funding over the next five years as part of the fiscal 2015 budget request. Nearly \$1 billion will be spent on a new homeland defense radar in Alaska, and \$560 million will be spent on a new interceptor.

Sadly, the \$4.5 billion doesn't even put us on the cutting edge of missile defense against those who threaten us - it only makes renovations to the crumbling missile defense structure left by the empty promises and naive prioritization of this Administration.

When running for office, the President said, "I will cut tens of billions of dollars in wasteful spending. I will cut investments in unproven missile defense systems. I will not weaponize space. I will slow our development of future combat systems."

It was the President's dream of a nuclear-free world. Without consideration of the rapid missile and atomic warfare advances of North Korea, Iran, Russia and China, the President scaled back many of our missile defense programs.

The President pulled the plug on a plan for more West Coast ground-based interceptors only to reinstate the program later at an far higher cost. Under his watch, the Airborne Laser, Multiple Kill Vehicle and Kinetic Energy Interceptor programs were either cancelled or mothballed. And he cut \$1.4 billion from the Missile Defense Agency in the Administration's 2010 defense budget.

The President was in his dream-state for more than three years, only to wake up to a worldwide nuclear threat more complex and more dangerous than ever. But what has been done to offset the years of dismantlement?



A Standard Missile – 3 (SM-3) Block 1B interceptor is launched from the USS LAKE ERIE (CG 70) during a Missile Defense Agency and U.S. Navy test

The President appears to be pressing the Department of Defense toward \$4.5 billion in additional missile defense funding. It is a move in the right direction but still far from what is needed to protect our Nation from rogue leaders.

As pointed out by the Heritage Foundation, no matter where on Earth a missile is launched from, it would take 33 Minutes or less to hit a U.S. target. We do not have time to wait for the Administration to hit the snooze button and dream a little longer as our missile defense becomes antiquated. We must maintain a defensive capability that is second to none, starting with the investments we should have made over the past five years.

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"Report Indicates China Ready to Deploy Submarine with Nuclear Tipped Missiles"

(Rep. Fleming)



In January, the Office of Naval Intelligence (ONI) reported that China is set to deploy its Jin-class submarine in 2014. With ONI's assessments indicating that the new submarine will be armed with nuclear tipped missiles that are capable of striking Alaska or Hawaii, China's fast-growing, sea-based nuclear deterrent is becoming a credible threat to the stability of the world's seas. The Julang-2 missile aboard the submarine will for the first time give the People's Liberation Army Navy (PLAN) the capability to deliver a nuclear payload to parts of the United States from China's coastal waters.

The PLA's deployment of this weapon system signifies a major shift in the global national security balance. Should China move as expected to acquire five or six of the Jin-class submarines, the PLA will have a similar nuclear deterrent capability as the U.K and France. Presently, only Russia, France, the U.K. and the U.S. operate ballistic missile-carrying submarines (SSBNs). Because of the comparably flat trajectories and limited launch warning times associated with submarine-launched ballistic missiles, PLAN's submarines could theoretically defeat U.S. ballistic missile defenses and hold the American homeland at risk.

The United States needs a nuclear policy that can keep pace with the evolving nuclear postures of its potential adversaries. In addition to proposals to unilaterally slash U.S. nuclear forces, the Administration has shirked its obligations to modernize the current nuclear arsenal and the weapons systems that deliver them. Such policies give China a credible "first strike" option should it choose to launch a preemptive nuclear attack against the U.S. or one of its allies, weakening our ability to deter aggression and impose costs on those in the Pacific who threaten us.

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